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Ref: Kuala Lumpur's 3247 - POL 8 ASIA SE

Subj: Malaysian Call For Neutralization of Southeast Asia

1. You should respond to Utusan Melayu inquiry regarding GOM proposal that Southeast Asia be a neutral area guaranteed by US, Soviets, and Communist China, along following lines:

2. We assume GOM proposal has as ultimate aim protection of independence of Southeast Asian nations and establishing of a lasting peace in the area. US of course sympathizes with and supports these aims.

3. However, because of the very real question about the Soviet and Chinese Communist attitude toward these aims, and because the proposal is still in the preliminary talking stage and has not

(6)

DRAFTED BY	DRAFTING DATE	TEL. EXT.	APPROVED BY
EA/MS:JWBennett:sim	10/6/70	28202	EA - Mr. Wilson

CLEARANCES:
EA/RA - Mr. Masters (draft)
EA/P - Mr. Nielson
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ACTION:

yet found support among all the nations of Southeast Asia, it would not be appropriate or useful for the US to make an official public comment at this time.

ROGERS

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